

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/753,662

Applicant(s)

PARKKONEN, MILES MILTON

Examiner

Gary K Graham

Art Unit

1744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview of 25 March 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

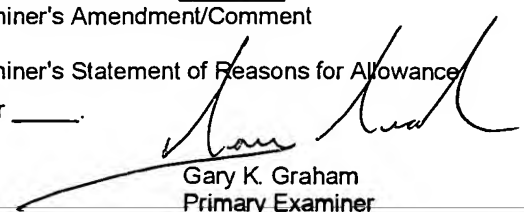
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 03252005.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Gary K. Graham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Miles Parkkonen on 24 March 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification

In the specification, on page 5, replace the paragraph under "Detailed Description of the Invention" with the following paragraph.

--- As shown in fig. 1 of the drawings, the Paint Brush Scrubber is a multiple use device, which can be made from a variety of materials, such as wood, plastic or metal. It is used for cleaning any size paint brushes, rollers and paint pad applicators. Figure 2 shows that the device has an elongated body portion with two broadsides 4, for left and right hand use. Each broadside has a scrub board consisting of a multitude of rectangular notches 1 that extend from opposing planar side faces of the body portion for scrubbing, lifting and separating the bristles of the brush and the nap of the rollers and pad applicators, for optimal cleaning. The device also comprises a semicircular notched cutout 2, which conform to the shape of a conventional paint roller and is used to scrape paint from the rollers and comb paint brush bristles back into shape after cleaning. An elongated, reduced width handle extends from one end of the body portion and has a hole 3 in the free end thereof, so the tool can be stored with your paint brushes.---

In the Claims

Cancel claims 1 and 2.

Add new claim 3 as found on page 5 of this Examiner's Amendment.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claimed cleaning device for paint brushes, rollers and pad applicators sets forth a unique combination of elements not taught by the prior art. In particular, transverse, rectangular notches that are provided on both broadsides of an elongated body portion, wherein an elongated handle extends from one end of the elongated body portion and a semicircular cutout is provided in the body portion amid a plurality of the notches.

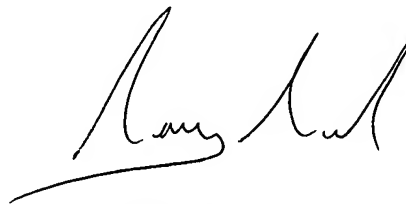
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary K Graham whose telephone number is 571-272-1274. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday (6:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Kim can be reached on 571-272-1142. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary K Graham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Gary K Graham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

GKG
24 March 2005

3. A cleaning device for paint brushes, rollers and pad applicators, said device comprising:

an elongated body portion having first and second ends, said body portion being substantially flat to define front and back opposing broadsides which are joined by first and second planar side faces, each broadside has a plurality of substantially rectangular notches therein that extends transversely across the body portion, wherein a plurality of said notches on each broadside extends from the first planar side face to the second planar side face;

an elongated handle extending from the first end, said handle having a reduced width less than said body portion and having a hole therethrough in a free end thereof;

said body portion has a semicircular cutout therein adjacent said first end which is provided amid a plurality of said notches and extends from one of said planar side faces towards the other planar side face, said cutout is adapted to conform to the shape of paint rollers.